

NEWS RELEASE

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHIANG, LOWENTHAL SPONSOR FREE TAX SEMINAR FOR NON-PROFITS

John Chiang, Chair of the State Board of Equalization, and State Senator Alan Lowenthal are co-sponsoring a free seminar to educate non-profit organizations about key issues affecting the financial health of non-profit organizations.

The event will take place Friday, March 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 16401 Paramount Blvd. in the City of Paramount.

"As we saw vividly with the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina," said Chiang, "non-profits can even outperform government in getting help to those in desperate need. In this era of dwindling government services, these organizations perform a vital role delivering affordable health care, shelter, food, educational programs, and employment training to communities across Southern California."

"It's the responsibility of those of us in public service to do what we can to help non-profits remain in business," Chiang added.

The seminar will include sales and use taxes and non-profit organizations, the welfare exemption for qualified non-profit organizations; and IRS regulations governing charities and exempt organizations.

Specialists from the BOE, the Employment Development Department and the IRS will be making presentations.

Chiang was first elected to the Board in 1998. He represents the 4th District, which includes 73 cities in Los Angeles County, including the City of Los Angeles, and more than 8.5 million people.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly-elected tax board. The Board in 2004-2005 collected more than \$46 billion in tax and fees supporting state and local government services.